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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XA972]

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council); Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Western Pacific Stock Assessment Review (WPSAR) Steering Committee will convene a public meeting to discuss and approve the 5-year calendar for stock assessments, and to address any other concerns related to the WPSAR process.

DATES: The Steering Committee will meet from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on April 14, 2021.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held by web conference. Audio and visual portions of the web conference can be accessed at:

https://wprfmc.webex.com/wprfmc/onstage/g.php?MTID=e8c384805392ab62d6dd9bf6f6 c818a68. Web conference access information will also be posted on the Council's website at www.wpcouncil.org. For assistance with the web conference connection, contact the Council office at (808) 522-8220.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kitty Simonds, Executive Director, Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, (808) 522-8220 (voice) or (808) 522-8226 (fax).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The WPSAR steering committee consists of the Council's Executive Director, the Director of the NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, and the Regional Administrator of the NMFS Pacific Islands Regional

Office. You may read more about WPSAR at

https://www.pifsc.noaa.gov/peer reviews/wpsar/index.php.

The public will have an opportunity to comment during the meeting. The agenda

order may change. The meeting will run as late as necessary to complete scheduled

business.

Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions.

2. Stock assessment prioritization results.

3. Discuss and update 5-year stock assessment review schedule, including any changes

to the scheduling of reviews for stock assessments already on the calendar, and any

new additions to the schedule.

4. Discuss and update review levels, i.e., whether the stock assessments on the calendar

will be reviewed as benchmark assessments (new assessments) or assessment updates

(updates of existing models with recent data).

5. Review the upcoming schedule and nominate additional products for review by the

Center for Independent Experts, if necessary.

6. Other business.

7. Public comment.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Make direct

requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids to Kitty Simonds at (808)

522-8220, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Dated: March 24, 2021.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Deputy Director,

Office of Sustainable Fisheries,

National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2021-06445 Filed: 3/26/2021 8:45 am; Publication Date: 3/29/2021]